(c) Both the Governments are interacting on regular basis towards enhancing bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Following the signing of the Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement in 1992 and creation of bilateral inter Government Commission on Trade, Economic, Science, Technological and Cultural Cooperation, a series of agreements between the two countries have been signed and number of mechanisms have been set up to promote trade and economic cooperation. Steps have also been taken to enlarge Indo-Russian trade on consignment export basis through the warehouses and also ensuring greater presence of Indian banks in Russia. Both sides are also making efforts to promote bilateral trade through participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, exchange of trade information, etc.

Paper Industry

3243. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the paper industry at present is not progressing well;

(b) whether paper industry need heavy amount to meet growing demand of paper and paper board in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which the Government is likely to provide sufficient funds to boost the paper production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No,Sir. The country is broadly self-sufficient in the Production of paper.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The per capita consumption of paper in the country is expected to go up from 32 kgs to 5 kgs by the end of the century. On the basis of letters of intent (LOIs) issued and Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandums (IEMs) filed, it is expected that an additional capacity of 19.96 lakh tonnes would be available to meet this growing demand.

(d) Under the existing policy dispensation, the paper industry is not reserved for public sector. The industry is also partially de-licenced. Investments are made by entrepreneurs based on their commercial perceptions.

Import of Coal

3244. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of import of coal made by various power houses in the country during the last one year;

(b) whether the import of coal by power houses were made without utilising the coal from indigeneous coal fields; and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof and the action the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) As per the information made available by the Central Electricity Authority, a total of 1.831 million tonnes of imported coal was received by the power houses of Tamil Nadu in the year 1995-96. Another 1.332 million tonnes of imported coal has been received by these power stations in the year 1996-97.

(b) and (c). Under the present Export and Import Policy, coal can be freely imported into the country. Such imports of coal if any, are made by the consumers themselves considering their needs and exercising their own commercial judgement. The national coal companies are in a position to meet the entire requirements of the power stations in Tamil Nadu and adequate allocation to meet the entire requirements of these power stations are being maintained from indigenous sources.

Subsidy to Integrated Rural Development Programme

3245. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of bank credit and Government subsidy provided to each State for the implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme since its inception;

(b) the total number of families benefited therefrom till September, 1996;

(c) whether the impact of the programme had been uneven in regard to alleviation of poverty;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the State-wise amounts of bank credit and Government subsidy under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) since its inception are not available with them. However, since the inception IRDP, bank credit of Rs. 16,797.86 crores and Government subsidy amounting to Rs. 10,550.56 crores, aggregating Rs. 27,348.42 crores had been provided to 494.98 lakh families below poverty line, till the end of September, 1996.

(c) and (d). The High Level Expert Committee on IRDP under the Chairmanship of Shri D.R. Mehta, former Deputy Government of RBI, has observed that large scale under-financing of IRDP beneficiaries in the initial years of the programme resulted in sub-optimal utilisation of assets and inadequate income generation which, in turn, had an uneven and adverse impact on the quality of lending in general and on recovery in particular.

(e) As recommended by the Mehta Committee in its interim report, banks have been advised by RBI to provide supplementary dose of assistance under IRDP upto the limit stipulated under existing subsidy ceilings to beneficiaries who have not crossed the poverty line with the initial assistance extended to them under IRDP. Further, the banks have been advised to introduce the system of back-end subsidy under IRDP, to prevent leakages present in the system of front-end subsidy.

Decline in Projection by STC

3246. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Trading Corporation's projections for the current year has sharply come down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. For the current financial year, STC has a turnover target of Rs. 1964 crores comprising Rs. 1514 crores in terms of its MOU for 1996-97 and Rs. 450 crores as canalised imports which envisages an increase of 17% over its actual performance of Rs. 1685 crores during 1995-96.

Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana

3247. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :
DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of SC/ST entrepreneurs out of the total entrepreneurs in the country granted loans under Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : As reported by the States and Union Territories, the number of SC/ST entrepreneurs out of the total number of entrepreneurs in the country sanctioned loan under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

Statement showing State-wise number of SC/ST entrepreneurs out of the total entrepreneurs granted loans under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96.

S.No.	State/UT	1993-94 Total entr-epreneurs Sanctioned loans (Nos.)	SC/ST entrepr-eneurs Sanctioned loan out of total (Nos.)	1994-95 Total entr-epreneurs Sanctioned loans (Nos.)	SC/ST entrepr-eneurs Sanctioned loan out of total (Nos.)	1995-96 Total entr-epreneurs Sanctioned loans (Nos.)	SC/ST entrepr-eneurs Sanctioned loan out of total (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3466	395	19851	3105	32556	3426
2.	Assam	818	128	6404	1452	9852	NR
3.	Bihar	2051	211	11705	774	17744	NR
4.	Delhi	622	64	702	69	4143	NR
5.	Goa	78	1	188	1	499	2
6.	Gujarat	527	51	5707	736	10190	1312
7.	Haryana	792	39	4598	468	9333	666
8.	Himachal Pradesh	201	21	1338	276	2578	354
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	101	3	1880	95	2586	NR
10.	Karnataka	1919	233	13759	1634	17000	1858
11.	Kerala	1595	63	11123	903	14135	NR
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2992	276	21840	2963	31566	4127
13.	Maharashtra	4850	384	26551	3176	40392	4450
14.	Manipur	214	47	2214	828	1753	NR
15.	Mizoram	31	31	223	203	240	240
16.	Orissa	842	97	5474	569	8267	NR
17.	Punjab	1030	57	5357	644	15531	1702